



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 3

Meeting Date: April 20, 2015
Meeting Location: Juvenile Justice Center
1000 South Michigan
South Bend, IN

Council Members Present: James Pippin, Regional Manager DCS; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Teresa Zornig, Director St. Joseph County DCS; William Horton, St. Joseph County DCS; Amanda Herendeen, Kosciusko County DCS; Tony Sommer, Director Elkhart County DCS; Erin Shidler, Director Kosciusko DCS; Philice Hutchen, Marshall County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Judge Curtis Palmer; Joe Wine, Foster Parent; Magistrate Deborah Domine; Don Phillips, Bashor; James Pheilbush; Scott Filley.

Others In Attendance: Rachel Tobin-Smith, SCAN/Community Partners; Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager; Janet Rathberger, DCS; Beverly Gatling, Resolute; Renee Battle, Resolute; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad; Becky Loth, Lifeline; Shelly Overgaard, Youth Services Bureau; Paige Hamilton, SCAN; Amy Prosser, Lifeline; Shonus Peterson, Youth Service Bureau; Candy Yoder, CAPS; Leah Plank, CAPS; Amy Rosen, Oaklawn; Bill Bruinsma, ROP; Pete Morgan, Probation; Tai Crayton, White's Residential.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:06 a.m. by James Pippin.

1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.
2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of 1/26/2015 reviewed. Bill Horton motioned approval of the minutes as written. Philice Hutchen seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion carried.
3. Community Partners Update. Rachel Tobin-Smith reported on the local prevention dollars, should be at 67% currently at 63% YTD \$500,477. Gear Up on track to spend all money. June 30th is the end of fiscal year and contract year. Statics through March; 197 referrals, 645 enrolled YTD, 87 enrolled in March with 202 in service. 1,061 men, women, and children touched by program. Outcomes for March; HFPI 6% above, 88% in goal achievement, and CTD engagement at 57%. Schools will be really busy in May before school ends. Referral sources CTD; St. Joseph County 53%, Elkhart County 35%, Kosciusko County 10% and Marshall County 2%. If referrals are not used in Kosciusko and Marshall County they go to St. Joseph County. Working with Jamie for recommendations on which areas money should be spent. Corrected Community Partners report will be sent to members after meeting.
4. Regional Budget Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager, reported on the March budget end of 3rd quarter which should be at 75%, currently at 76/77% once revenue is factored in. March totals; 3.1 million spent from the Family & Children's fund, out of that 1.7 million spent on Child Welfare, and 1.3 million spent on Probation. YTD Family & Children's Fund 27.38 million, 15.52 million Child Welfare and 11.82 million spent on Probation. Year-to-date increases seen in preservation services and miscellaneous cost of wards. Cost of care of wards in foster homes is down. July 1st new format out.
5. County Updates.

Marshall County - Michael Carroll, Director, turnover in Marshall with two FCM position vacancies currently. Pinwheels for Prevention scheduled on April 30th at Centennial Park, 7pm.

Kosciusko County – Erin Shidler, Director, they have a new Judge. County is at full staff. A clerk is retiring after 30 years of employment with the State of Indiana.

St Joseph County – Terri Zornig, Director, two BSW scholars starting in June and six FCM positions hired. Today staff was honored at an appreciation breakfast at Allie's restaurant by Prevent Child Abuse St Joseph County. Pinwheels for Prevention activity, partnered with the South Bend Cubs Safe at Home Baseball Game event scheduled for May 2nd. Email Terri and she will send the ticket form, every ticket purchased two dollars is contributed to Prevent Child Abuse. June Roofsit for PCA is June 25th. The 25th is Family Day with a Superhero tent honoring our local heroes. The Candlelight Vigil is in the evening with an attendance goal of 1,000.

Elkhart County – Tony Sommer, Director, Shirley Shekell, clerical, passed away from cancer last week. In the process of filling FCM positions, interviewing for Supervisor position and Jennifer Hasbrook is moving to regional FCM position. BSW scholars start date is 6/15.

Regional – Jamie Pippin, Regional Manager – reported on the Deloitte Work Study. The study came up with 10 recommendations; a lot of them had to do with ways to make us more efficient, hiring turnover, and pre-filling positions. In our region we tend to have a two position a month FCM vacancy. 104 additional Family Case Managers will be hired statewide and we are taking on additional BSW scholars. We have had turnover due to retirements, the Region 6 Regional Manager position is open, and Dan Brumfield is the interim.

6. Other business. Pete Morgan, Executive Director Probate Court Juvenile Justice Center, we have space at the east end of our building that is underutilized. At the end of last year Judge Fox took proposals from multiple providers, out of those he took input from our partners; DCS, Jamie Pippin and other key advisors. From that we are looking to move forward with Rite of Passage to provide licensed residential placement. The process for licensing has changed effective April 15th. We looked at our numbers and developed a needs assessment that was submitted to State's licensing department, it has not come back yet but they encouraged us to present it to the council members now. We looked at the number of kids we send out of this community. The LCPA needs assessment was handed to members. The overall number of beds has lowered. Overall need has declined somewhat. Keeping kids closer to home makes the best situation for aftercare. Placement reasons for sending children out of the community were disrupted behavior, substance abuse issues, mental health issues and sexually maladaptive behavior. Need to have a provider here in the community with the goal of keeping families involved in treatment with aftercare services.

Bill Bruisma, Rite of Passage, the need fits the Rite of Passage's mission to establish a residential treatment facility that will focus more on an academy model with some clinical capabilities. We will be taking a different type of student than Oaklawn. Working with conflict disorder, defiant, substance abuse, and gang related issues with a focus on working with the family, educational needs and equipping the student with vocational skills. July 1st is the targeted opening date.

Tony Sommer motioned adjournment. Meeting adjourned 10:42a.m.

The next RSC meeting will be July 20th, 10am at the Joy Rose Center/CAPS in Elkhart.